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Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Office for Project Services

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Country programmes and related matters

Extensions of country programmes
Note of the Administrator

Summary

The present note contains information on the extensions of the country programmes for the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Libya, South Africa, South Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen. Requests for first one-year extensions of country programmes are approved by the Administrator and presented to the Executive Board for information. Requests for second one-year extensions, two-year extensions and exceptional extensions of country programmes are submitted to the Board for approval.

Elements of a decision

The Executive Board may wish to take note of the first one-year extensions of the country programmes for the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, South Sudan and the Syrian Arab Republic from 1 January to 31 December 2018 and the first fifteenth-month extension of the country programme for South Africa from 1 January 2018 to 31 March 2019.

The Executive Board may wish to approve the exceptional fourth one-year extension of the country programme for Libya from 1 January to 31 December 2018 and the third two-year extension of the country programme for Yemen from 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2019.

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Annex

Table 1. For information by the Executive Board: Extensions of country programmes

Country	Years covered by original CPD	Year(s) covered by extension already approved	Year(s) proposed for new extension	Extension		Reason and explanation		
				One-year	Two-year	Harmonization of planning cycles	In-country political development	Other
Democratic Republic of the Congo	2013-2017	N/A	January – December 2018	Yes			The current political environment in the country is not conducive for the government to strategically engage with development partners. Furthermore, the National Development Plan on which the new UNDAF should be aligned has not yet been validated by the government.	
Equatorial Guinea	2013-2017	N/A	January – December 2018	Yes		The purpose of this extension is to align the programme cycle with national priorities.		
South Africa	2013-2017	N/A	January 2018 – March 2019	15 months		The purpose of this extension is to align the programme cycle with the government's Medium-Term Strategic Framework (MTSF 2020-2025) and the start of the fiscal year on 1 April.		
South Sudan	2013-2017	N/A	January – December 2018	Yes				South Sudan currently lacks a National Development Plan, although one is anticipated in 2018. The Interim Cooperation Framework (2016-2017), which was developed in response to the political crisis, and the country programme are therefore being extended by one year.
Syrian Arab Republic	2016-2017	N/A	January – December 2018	Yes			To align with the extension of the United Nations Strategic Framework through 2018 and allow for maximum flexibility considering the uncertain environment and ongoing peace talks.	

Table 2. For approval by the Executive Board: Extensions of country programmes

Country	Years covered by original CPD	Year(s) covered by extension already approved	Year(s) proposed for new extension	Extension				Reason and explanation		
				Second one-year	Two-year	Third two-year	Fourth one-year	Harmonization of planning cycles	In-country political development	Other
Libya	2012-2014	2015,2016,2017	January – December 2018				Yes		To align with the extension of the United Nation Strategic Framework through 2018 and allow additional time for the finalization of the next programme cycle, in view of the in-country conditions.	
Yemen	2012-2015	2016-2017	January 2018 – December 2019			Yes			To align with the extension of the UNDAF through 2019, due to prevailing in-country circumstances.	

UNDAF – United Nations Development Assistance Framework
CPD – country programme document